

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed October 15, 2004.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 6 have been amended to more particularly define the present invention and to put the claims in better form under U.S. practice. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and the original claims, see for example, chemical formulae 2 and 7 on pages 58 and 60 of the specification. Claims 1-6 are pending in this application.

Also, chemical formulae 3, 4 and 6 have been corrected to correspond with the chemical formulae of polyvinylbutyral, styrene/maleic acid copolymers, and vinylpyrrolidone /dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate copolymers described on pages 62, 63 and 65, respectively, of the specification.

In view of these amendments, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim of Priority

The Examiner has requested confirmation regarding Applicant's claim for foreign priority. Applicant wishes to confirm that no foreign priority has been claimed for Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-363025. Applicant also wishes to note that Japanese Patent Publication No. 07-109511 is correctly referenced in the specification. However, the publication is that of an examined patent application, i.e. Japanese "Kokoku" Publication No. 07-109511. To clarify the reference to this publication, Applicant has amended pages 9, lines 12-13 and 23-24, and page 10, lines 11-12 and 15 of the specification to read as "*Japanese Kokoku Publication No. 07-109511*". Applicant believes that this amendment should clarify the disclosure and address the Examiner's confusion.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 to address the Examiner concerns. In particular, the phrases "*desired high*" and "*and the like*" have been deleted from claims 1 and 6, respectively.

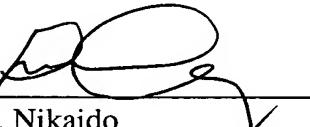
Thus, in view of the amendments to the claims, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all of the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejection. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.